

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A steam blanketing apparatus for blanketing the
5 face of a spinneret with gas comprising:
a spinneret pack body including a spinneret plate
having a lower face with an orifice array through which
filaments are extruded;
a spin head surrounding the spinneret pack body;
10 and
a steam distribution ring surrounding said array,
wherein said steam distribution ring abuts the spin
head.
- 15 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the steam
distribution ring is removably mounted to the spin
head.
- 20 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the spin head
includes a plate extending below the spinneret plate,
and the steam distribution ring is located in a
counterbore formed in the spin head plate.
- 25 4. The apparatus of claim 1, further including a
plurality of magnets attached to the spin head for
attaching the steam distribution ring to the spin head.
5. A method for keeping the face of a spinneret free
of polymer deposits, comprising:
30 removing a steam distribution ring removably
mounted to a spin head;
wiping the polymer deposits from the face of the
spinneret.
- 35 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the steam
distribution ring is removed without the need for
replacing the spin pack.

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